

Message Text

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64

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 EA-11 SS-15 NSC-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 CU-04

RSR-01 /092 W

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P 102300Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4968

INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEGUCIGALPA 2982

1. SUMMARY: HONDURAN DELEGATION PLANNING ATTEND PINGPONG TOURNAMENT IN PEKING, APPARENTLY WITH AUTHORIZATION OF GOH. END SUMMARY.

2. ON AUGUST 8 LOCAL BANKER, CAPTAIN ARMANDO SAN MARTIMH, TOLD DCM THAT HE WOULD PARTICIPATE IN HONDURAN DELEGATION TO VISIT PEOPLES REPUBLIC OF CHINA IN NEAR FUTURE AT INVITATION OF PRC GOVERNMENT. ANNOUNCEMENTS OF TRIP APPEARED IN MEDIA AUGUST 9. OTHER MEMBERS OF DELEGATION ARE: FORMER FONMIN AND OAS AMBASSADOR AND CURRENT GOH REP TO CACM RESTRUCTURING TALKS, ROBERTO PERDOMO PAREDES; DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL RADIO, NAHUM VALLADARES; BANKER RODOLFO CORDOVA PINEDA AND LAWYER FAUSTO LAINEZ.

3. FROM MEDIA REPORTS AND COMMENTS OF SAN MARTIN AND VALLADARES, INVITATION IS CONNECTED WITH UPIBMING "LATIN-AMERICAN-AFRO/ASIAN PINGPONG TOURNAMENT" (VALLADARES SAYS INVITATION CAME FROM TOURNAMENT OFFICIALS TO PERDOMO, WHO SELECTED OTHER MEMBERS OF TOURNAMENT "OBSERVER" DELEGATION); GROUP WILL BE IN PRC FROM AUGUST 25 TO SEPTEMBER 7, WITH STOPS IN HAWAII, HONG KONG AND TOKYO EN ROUTE; ALTHOUGH TRADE IS NOT PURPOSE OF TRIP, THEY MAY TAKE OPPORTUNITY FOR GENERAL DISCUSSION OF TRADE OPPORTUNITIES; AND TRIP HAS FULL APPROVAL OF HONDURAN FOREIGN MINISTRY.

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4. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH WE HAVE NOT HAD OPPORTUNITY TO SEEK BACKGROUND

FROM FONMIN OR OTHER MINISTRY OFFICIALS, THERE IS LITTLE DOUBT BUT THAT VISIT DOES HAVE GOH APPROVAL. SAN MARTIN IS VERY CLOSE TO GENERAL LOPEZ AND IT IS EXTREMELY UNLIKELY HE WOULD PARTICIPATE IN JAUNT WITHOUT LOPEZ' NOD. HE REMARKED TO DCM THAT THE GROUP WAS "JUST FOLLOWING IN FOOTSTEPS OF PRESIDENT NIXON."
SANCHEZ

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NNN

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30 JUN 2005

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